

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 26, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has been amended to better conform to U.S. practice and to correct a typographic error.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-8 and 10-12 have been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Claims 1-8 and 10-12 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1, 3, 5-8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,415,257 (Junqua) in view of DE 19747745 (Allinger). Further, claims 2, 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Junqua in view of Allinger and an IEEE Publication entitled "Investigating a Mixed-Initiative Dialogue Management Strategy" (Larsen). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Junqua in view of Allinger and U.S. Patent No. 6,502,082 (Toyama). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8 and 10-12 are allowable over Junqua, Allinger, Larsen and Toyama for at least the following reasons.

Junqua is directed to a system for adapting a TV-user profile by speech technology, where the user speech input is evaluated and interpreted to determine the meaning of the user's spoken input. Additional user input is elicited as needed. As correctly noted by the Examiner, Junqua does not teach or suggest adaptation of system outputs in dependence of derived user models. Allinger is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Junqua

Allinger is directed to a system used in museums, for example,

where different predetermined stored versions of the same information are presented to the user. For example, instead of the normal tour information, a short version is presented for a quick tour of the museum.

It is respectfully submitted that Junqua and Allinger, alone or combination, do does not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 7-8 which, amongst other patentable elements, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein the system outputs are adapted to the style of the speech of the user inputs including at least two of a colloquial language, standard language and dialect.

Adapting system outputs to the style of the speech of the user inputs including at least two of a colloquial language, standard language and dialect, as recited in independent claims 1 and 7-8, is nowhere taught or suggested in Junqua, Allinger, and combination thereof. Larsen and Toyama are cited in rejecting dependent claims to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies of Junqua and Allinger.


Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 7-8 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is

respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-6 and 10-12 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 8.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dicran Halajian, Reg. 39,703
Attorney for Applicant(s)
May 7, 2007

Enclosure: New Abstract

THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP
Applied Technology Center
111 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706
Tel: (631) 665-5139
Fax: (631) 665-5101